

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Chen, et al.  
Serial No: 09/673,994  
Int. App. No. PCT/US99/08502  
Int. App. Filed: April 23, 1999  
For: CNRE Binding Factors and Uses Thereof  
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to Box PCT, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2002.

*Konstantinos Andrikopoulos*  
Konstantinos Andrikopoulos, Reg. No. 48,915

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**SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**In the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph under the “Related Applications” section with the following new paragraph:

-- The present application represents the United States national stage of International Application PCT/US99/08502, filed April 23, 1999, and claims priority under 35 USC § 119(e) from U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/082,997 filed on April 24, 1998, entitled NRE BINDING FACTORS AND USES THEREOF. The contents of the above-identified provisional application are hereby expressly incorporated by reference.--

Please insert the paragraph below immediately following the claims:

**-- Abstract**

The invention pertains to nucleic acids encoding Negative Regulatory Element Binding factor (NREBs) proteins, including fragments and biologically functional variants thereof. The invention also pertains to therapeutics and diagnostics involving the foregoing proteins and genes and agents that bind the foregoing proteins and genes.--